

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-5 (canceled):

1 6. (currently amended): ~~The method of claim 5,~~ A method for causing an
2 application selected for launching by a user during an operating session of a
3 computer system to be launched during subsequent operating sessions, wherein
4 the method comprises:

5 a) determining that the application has been launched during a portion of
6 the operating session;

7 b) determining that the application has been launched a number of times
8 exceeding a launch number criterion during portions of previous operating
9 sessions, wherein the launch number criterion is held at a first level in response
10 to a determination that a blacklist flag has not been set regarding the application
11 during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating
12 that the user wants the application to be removed from consideration to be
13 launched during subsequent operating sessions, and wherein the launch number
14 criterion is held at a second level in response to a determination that a blacklist
15 flag has been set regarding the application during a previous operating session in
16 response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the application to be
17 removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating
18 sessions;

19 c) determining that the application has been launched a percentage of
20 times exceeding a launch percentage criterion during the portions of previous
21 operating sessions, wherein the launch percentage criterion is held at a third
22 level in response to a determination that a blacklist flag has not been set
23 regarding the application during a previous operating session in response to a
24 selection signal indicating that the user wants the application to be removed from
25 consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions, and wherein
26 the launch percentage criterion is held at a fourth level in response to a

the launch percentage criterion is held at a fourth level in response to a determination that a blacklist flag has been set regarding the application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions[.];

d) displaying a user interface providing for a user selection indicating that the user wants the application to be launched during the subsequent operating sessions, wherein the user interface additionally provides for a user selection indicating that the user wants the application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions;

e) receiving a selection signal indicating that the user wants the application to be launched during the subsequent operating sessions; and

f) writing data to a startup sequence causing the application to be launched by the computer system during the subsequent operating sessions.

7. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 3~~ A method for causing an application selected for launching by a user during an operating session of a computer system to be launched during subsequent operating sessions, wherein the method comprises:

a) determining that the application has been launched during a portion of the operating session;

b) determining that the application has been launched a number of times exceeding a launch number criterion during portions of previous operating sessions;

c) determining that the application has been launched a percentage of times exceeding a launch percentage criterion during the portions of previous operating sessions;

d) displaying a user interface providing for a user selection indicating that the user wants the application to be launched during the subsequent

operating sessions, wherein the user interface additionally provides for a first user selection indicating that the user wants the application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions and for a second user selection indicating that the user wants applications removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions not to be reconsidered for launching during subsequent operating sessions[.]; and wherein the method additionally includes:

e) receiving a selection signal indicating that the user wants the application to be launched during the subsequent operating sessions;

f) writing data to a startup sequence causing the application to be launched by the computer system during the subsequent operating sessions;

g) determining whether a blacklist flag has been set regarding the application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions;

h) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has not been set, holding the launch number criterion at a first level and holding the launch percentage criterion at a third level;

i) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has been set, holding the launch number criterion at a second level and holding the launch percentage criterion at a fourth level; and

j) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has been set, determining that a reconsideration flag has not been set in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants applications removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions not to be reconsidered for launching during subsequent operating sessions[.].

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the user interface additionally provides for user selections setting the first, second, third, and fourth levels.

9-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended): ~~The computer system of claim 11,~~ A computer system comprising a display screen; data and instruction storage storing a plurality of applications, a startup configuration database, and a launch history database storing data corresponding to previously launched applications within the plurality of applications; and a microprocessor programmed to perform a method comprising:

a) reading data within the startup configuration database;

b) launching an application within the plurality of applications from data corresponding to the application within the startup configuration database;

c) displaying a first user interface on the display screen providing for user selection of an application within the plurality of applications;

d) launching a user-selected application in response to a selection signal indicating user selection of the application;

e) writing data corresponding to the user-selected application to the launch history database;

f) determining from data stored within the launch history database that the user-selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a launch number criterion;

g) determining from data stored within the launch history database that the user-selected application has been launched a percentage of times exceeding a launch percentage criterion;

h) displaying a second user interface on the display screen providing for a user selection indicating that the user wants the user-selected application to be launched during subsequent operating sessions, wherein the second user interface additionally provides for a first user selection indicating that the user wants the user-selected application to be removed from consideration to be

launched during subsequent operating sessions and for a second user selection indicating that the user wants applications removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions not to be reconsidered for launching during subsequent operating sessions[[],]; ~~and wherein the method additionally includes~~

i) receiving a selection signal indicating that the user wants the user-selected application to be launched during the subsequent operating sessions;

and

j) writing data to the startup configuration database corresponding to the user-selected application;

k) determining whether a blacklist flag has been set regarding the user-selected application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the user-selected application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions;

l) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has not been set, holding the launch number criterion at a first level and holding the launch percentage criterion at a third level;

m) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has been set, holding the launch number criterion at a second level and holding the launch percentage criterion at a fourth level; and

n) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has been set, determining that a reconsideration flag has not been set in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants applications removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions not to be reconsidered for launching during subsequent operating sessions[[],].

15. (original): The computer system of claim 14, wherein the second user interface additionally provides for user selections setting the first, second, third,

3 and fourth levels.

1 16. (currently amended): ~~The computer system of claim 9, wherein~~ A computer
2 system comprising a display screen; data and instruction storage storing a
3 plurality of applications, a the-startup configuration database includes including a
4 number of user configuration data structures for a number of users of the
5 computer system, and a the launch history database includes including a number
6 of user launch history data structures for a number of users of the computer
7 system storing data corresponding to previously launched applications within the
8 plurality of applications; and a microprocessor programmed to perform a method
9 comprising:

10 a) determining that a user has logged step a) is preceded by a user
11 logging onto the computer system[[,]].

12 b) reading data within the startup configuration database; wherein,

13 c) launching an application within the plurality of applications from data
14 corresponding to the application within the startup configuration database;

15 d) displaying a first user interface on the display screen providing for
16 user selection of an application within the plurality of applications;

17 e) launching a user-selected application in response to a selection signal
18 indicating user selection of the application;

19 f) writing data corresponding to the user-selected application to the
20 launch history database, wherein, as the method is performed, data written to
21 and read from the launch history database is written to and read from the user
22 launch history data structure of the user logging onto the computer system;

23 g) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
24 the user-selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a
25 launch number criterion; and

26 h) writing data to the startup configuration database corresponding to
27 the user-selected application, wherein as the method is performed, data written

28 to and read from the startup configuration database is written to and read from
29 the user configuration data structure of the user logging onto the computer
30 system, ~~and as the method is performed, data written to and read from the~~
31 ~~launch history database is written to and read from the user launch history data~~
32 ~~structure of the user logging onto the computer system.~~

1 17. (currently amended): ~~The computer system of claim 9,~~ A computer system
2 comprising a display screen; data and instruction storage storing a plurality of
3 applications, a startup configuration database, and a launch history database
4 storing data corresponding to previously launched applications within the plurality
5 of applications; and a microprocessor programmed to perform a method
6 comprising:

7 a) reading data within the startup configuration database;

8 b) launching an application within the plurality of applications from data
9 corresponding to the application within the startup configuration database;

10 c) displaying a first user interface on the display screen providing for
11 user selection of an application within the plurality of applications;

12 d) launching a user-selected application in response to a selection signal
13 indicating user selection of the application;

14 e) writing data corresponding to the user-selected application to the
15 launch history database, wherein data is written to the launch history database
16 and to the startup configuration database corresponding to the user-selected
17 application only during a predetermined period following launching applications
18 within the plurality of applications from data corresponding to the applications
19 within the startup configuration database[.];

20 f) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
21 the user-selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a
22 launch number criterion; and

23 g) writing data to the startup configuration database corresponding to

24 the user-selected application, wherein data is written to the startup configuration
25 database corresponding to the user-selected application only during a
26 predetermined period following launching applications within the plurality of
27 applications from data corresponding to the applications within the startup
28 configuration database.

18-21 (canceled)

1 22. (currently amended) ~~The computer program product of claim 20, A~~
2 computer program product for use with a computer system having a
3 microprocessor executing program steps from an operating system having a
4 capability to launch applications from data corresponding to the applications
5 stored within a startup configuration database, wherein the computer program
6 product includes a computer usable medium having computer readable program
7 code embodied thereon causing the microprocessor to additionally perform a
8 method comprising:
9 a) determining through an operating system interface with the operating
10 system that a selected application has been launched;
11 b) writing data corresponding to the selected application to a launch
12 history data file,
13 c) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
14 the selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a
15 launch number criterion, wherein the second user interface additionally provides
16 for a user selection indicating that the user wants the selected application to be
17 removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating
18 sessions, the launch number criterion is held at a first level in response to a
19 determination that a blacklist flag has not been set regarding the selected
20 application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal
21 indicating that the user wants the selected application to be removed from

consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions, and wherein the launch number criterion is held at a second level in response to a determination that a blacklist flag has been set regarding the selected application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the selected application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions[.];

d) determining from data stored within the launch history database that the selected application has been launched a percentage of times exceeding a launch percentage criterion, wherein the launch percentage criterion is held at a third level in response to a determination that a blacklist flag has not been set regarding the selected application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the selected application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions, and wherein the launch percentage criterion is held at a fourth level in response to a determination that a blacklist flag has been set regarding the selected application during a previous operating session in response to a selection signal indicating that the user wants the selected application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions[.];

e) displaying a second user interface on the display screen providing for a user selection indicating that the user wants the selected application to be launched during subsequent operating sessions and additionally providing for a user selection indicating that the user wants the selected application to be removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions.

f) receiving a selection signal indicating that the user wants the selected application to be launched during the subsequent operating sessions; and

g) writing data corresponding to the selected application to the startup configuration database.

1 23. (currently amended): ~~The computer program product of claim 20, A~~
2 computer program product for use with a computer system having a
3 microprocessor executing program steps from an operating system having a
4 capability to launch applications from data corresponding to the applications
5 stored within a startup configuration database, wherein the computer program
6 product includes a computer usable medium having computer readable program
7 code embodied thereon causing the microprocessor to additionally perform a
8 method comprising:

9 a) determining through an operating system interface with the operating
10 system that a selected application has been launched;

11 b) writing data corresponding to the selected application to a launch
12 history data file;

13 c) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
14 the selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a
15 launch number criterion;

16 d) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
17 the selected application has been launched a percentage of times exceeding a
18 launch percentage criterion;

19 e) displaying a second user interface on the display screen providing for
20 a user selection indicating that the user wants the selected application to be
21 launched during subsequent operating sessions, wherein the second user
22 interface additionally provides for a first user selection indicating that the user
23 wants the selected application to be removed from consideration to be launched
24 during subsequent operating sessions and for a second user selection indicating
25 that the user wants applications removed from consideration to be launched
26 during subsequent operating sessions not to be reconsidered for launching
27 during subsequent operating sessions, ~~and wherein the method additionally~~
28 includes;

29 f) receiving a selection signal indicating that the user wants the selected
30 application to be launched during the subsequent operating sessions;

31 g) writing data corresponding to the selected application to the startup
32 configuration database.

33 h) determining whether a blacklist flag has been set regarding the
34 selected application during a previous operating session in response to a
35 selection signal indicating that the user wants the selected application to be
36 removed from consideration to be launched during subsequent operating
37 sessions;

38 i) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has not been set,
39 holding the launch number criterion at a first level and holding the launch
40 percentage criterion at a third level;

41 j) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has been set,
42 holding the launch number criterion at a second level and holding the launch
43 percentage criterion at a fourth level; and

44 k) in response to a determination that the blacklist flag has been set,
45 determining that a reconsideration flag has not been set in response to a
46 selection signal indicating that the user wants applications removed from
47 consideration to be launched during subsequent operating sessions not to be
48 reconsidered for launching during subsequent operating sessions[.].

1 24. (original) The computer program product of claim 23, wherein the second
2 user interface additionally provides for user selections setting the first, second,
3 third, and fourth levels.

1 25. (currently amended): ~~The computer program product of claim 18, A~~
2 computer program product for use with a computer system having a
3 microprocessor executing program steps from an operating system having a
4 capability to launch applications from data corresponding to the applications

5 stored within a startup configuration database, wherein the computer program
6 product includes a computer usable medium having computer readable program
7 code embodied thereon causing the microprocessor to additionally perform a
8 method comprising:

9 a) determining that a user has logged onto the computer system;

10 b) determining through an operating system interface with the operating
11 system that a selected application has been launched;

12 c) writing data corresponding to the selected application to a launch
13 history database, wherein the launch history database includes a number of
14 user launch history data structures for a number of users of the computer
15 system, step a) is preceded by a user logging onto the computer system, and
16 wherein, as the method is performed, data written to and read from the launch
17 history database is written to and read from the user launch history data structure
18 of the user logging onto the computer system;

19 d) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
20 the selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a
21 launch number criterion; and

22 e) writing data corresponding to the selected application to the startup
23 configuration database, wherein as the method is performed, data written to and
24 read from the startup configuration database is written to and read from a user
25 configuration data structure of the user logging onto the computer system within
26 the startup configuration database, and as the method is performed, data written
27 to and read from the launch history database is written to and read from the user
28 launch history data structure of the user logging onto the computer system.

1 26. (currently amended) ~~The computer program product of claim 18, A~~
2 computer program product for use with a computer system having a
3 microprocessor executing program steps from an operating system having a
4 capability to launch applications from data corresponding to the applications

5 stored within a startup configuration database, wherein the computer program
6 product includes a computer usable medium having computer readable program
7 code embodied thereon causing the microprocessor to additionally perform a
8 method comprising:

9 a) determining through an operating system interface with the operating
10 system that a selected application has been launched;

11 b) writing data corresponding to the selected application to a launch
12 history data file;

13 c) determining from data stored within the launch history database that
14 the selected application has been launched a number of times exceeding a
15 launch number criterion wherein data is written to the launch history database
16 and to the startup configuration database corresponding to the selected
17 application only during a predetermined period following launching applications
18 within the plurality of applications from data corresponding to the applications
19 within the startup configuration database[.]; and

20 d) writing data corresponding to the selected application to the startup
21 configuration database wherein data is written to the startup configuration
22 database corresponding to the selected application only during a predetermined
23 period following launching applications within the plurality of applications from
24 data corresponding to the applications within the startup configuration database.

27-35 (canceled)